

County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

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February 21, 2006

TO: Each Supervisor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bryce Yokomizo', written over the 'TO:' line.

FROM: Bryce Yokomizo, Director

**SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT OF STAGE 1 CHILD CARE CONTRACT
(BOARD ORDER SYN. #45 - DECEMBER 1, 1998)**

In response to your Board's December 1, 1998 order, this is the semi-annual Stage 1 Child Care contract evaluation report for July – December 2005 services. Statistical data has been updated to reflect the 13 contractors' performance of services under the contract for the last six months of 2005.

Collocation Staff: Contractor staff collocated at our CalWORKs and GAIN Regional offices continue to provide expedited referrals and child care authorizations to all CalWORKs participants seeking Child Care Services.

Average Number of Children Served: The monthly average number of children served in Stage 1 during the period was 17,401 compared to 18,724 during the previous six months, a decrease of 1,323 children.

Average Number of Cases Served: For the period July - December 2005, the average number of cases receiving Stage 1 Child Care Services was 11,798 cases per month. This is a decrease of 457 cases from the January - June 2005 average of 12,255.

Complaints: During this reporting period, there was a decrease in the number of child care complaints received, with an average of 20 calls per month compared to 27 calls per month in the previous reporting period. The average monthly complaints continue to be less than one percent of the average monthly caseload.

Monitoring: DPSS continues to monitor the agencies closely by conducting on-site case reviews to confirm that contractors adhere to contract provisions for time limits for making referrals, authorizing child care and issuing timely and correct child care provider payments. Other areas reviewed by DPSS include case record documentation and meeting the language requirements mandated for agencies' staff. DPSS initiated fiscal assessments on four agencies that exceeded the error threshold during the most recent review quarter. DPSS found the services of the other nine contractors to be satisfactory.

Staff Turnover: Staff turnover rate during this period increased to 11 percent from the last six months rate of 8 percent. One of the 13 agencies increased the number of staff working on Stage 1 Child Care Services, while seven of the contractors decreased staff between July - December 2005.

Fraud Prevention: DPSS in concert with the Auditor-Controller hired an independent auditor to review the contractors' payment systems to ensure program integrity. The audit is currently in progress and expected to be completed by mid-year. Upon receipt of the complete audit results, DPSS will work with each of the agencies to take corrective action that ensure all recommendations are implemented. DPSS is also conducting Fraud Prevention and Detection Training to the contractors' staff on an ongoing basis.

BY:mth

Attachment

c: Auditor-Controller
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Child Care Planning Committee
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

NUMBER OF CHILD CARE CASES/PAYMENTS

The following chart reflects the combined number of Stage 1 Child Care authorizations and referrals processed by the Alternative Payment Program agencies and the authorized amount of Stage 1 Child Care payments issued.

ALTERNATIVE PAYMENT PROGRAM AGENCY	CASES RECEIVING REFERRALS AND CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE July – December 2005 (1)	AUTHORIZED AMOUNT OF PROVIDER PAYMENTS (2)
Center for Community and Family Services	7,339	\$6,684,695.20
Pathways	3,913	\$2,613,690.57
Child Care Information Service	2,086	\$1,415,350.11
Child Care Resource Center	12,578	\$10,434,155.75
Children's Home Society	5,640	\$5,355,434.29
City of Norwalk	915	\$597,611.38
Connections for Children	1,167	\$842,267.79
Crystal Stairs, Inc.	16,765	\$13,486,910.34
Drew Child Development Corporation	5,432	\$5,150,359.48
International Institute of Los Angeles	882	\$607,368.20
Mexican-American Opportunity Foundation	6,165	\$4,724,902.09
Options	4,383	\$3,227,160.23
Pomona Unified School District	3,523	\$3,231,704.80
TOTALS:	70,788	\$58,371,610.23

(1) Combines Agency claimed referrals plus authorizations posted to the Department's GEARS system, and the agencies' monthly invoices from July through December 2005.

(2) Child care payments authorized by the agencies, as reported on the Department's GEARS system and the agencies' monthly invoices from July through December 2005.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED

The following chart reflects the average number of children by age category who have received child care services per month, during the final six months of calendar year 2005, by each of the Alternative Payment Program agencies. The total average number of children serviced during this period decreased by 1,323.

ALTERNATIVE PAYMENT PROGRAM AGENCY	CHILDREN'S AGES							
	UNDER ONE	1	2	3-4	5-10	11-12	13-18	TOTAL
Center for Community and Family Services	80	188	241	445	839	194	16	2,003
Child Care Information Service	24	49	69	102	185	34	4	467
Child Care Resource Center	140	319	394	709	1,303	260	31	3,156
Children's Home Society	35	109	135	298	537	137	12	1,263
City of Norwalk	8	21	29	50	118	19	2	247
Connections for Children	6	32	35	63	89	25	2	252
Crystal Stairs, Inc.	133	384	507	894	1,612	379	47	3,956
Drew Child Development Corporation	56	159	200	319	634	143	14	1,525
International Institute of Los Angeles	9	24	29	40	97	23	2	224
Mexican-American Opportunity Foundation	48	151	193	339	715	138	14	1,598
Options	36	113	126	244	448	84	8	1,059
Pathways	22	67	94	187	305	86	9	770
Pomona Unified School District	25	86	99	204	377	79	11	881
TOTALS:	622	1,702	2,151	3,894	7,259	1,601	172	17,401